

**Elected Officials****Mayor**

Pete Schave

Ward 1Melvin Taylor
Kacey Morrison**Ward 2**David Gakin
John Maki**Ward 3**Liz Ellis
Kati Kachman**Ward 4**Stan Sidor
Deborah Ross**Ward 5**Josh Francy
Debi Pieraccini**Ward 6**David Lawrence
Dee Anne Shaw**City Council Meetings**2nd, 4th & 5th Wednesday
of each month**City of Aberdeen****200 E. Market Street
Aberdeen, WA 98520**

(360) 533-4100

Monday—Friday

8:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

Website: aberdeenwa.gov

@Facebook.com/

AberdeenWA

Important Note:City Hall 1st Floor cashier
window will be closed
Tuesday, March 7
8 a.m.—Noon**My First Three Years as Mayor of Aberdeen****By Pete Shave**

Just when I think the coast is clear and I can kick back and relax with a cup of tea and some music, all “you know what” breaks out and I am up and running again. Hey, being mayor of the great City of Aberdeen is easy, right? Riiight! Well, I thought having a seat on the council for a bunch of years should have made it easier for me to be mayor to handle the day-to-day stuff that goes on around the city. Honestly, that didn’t turn out to be the case. Being a council member and a mayor are two entirely different things.



In 2020, as the new mayor, I was faced with many immediate issues that needed remedies (some of them I’m still working on) then — Wham! In comes the COVID pandemic three months after I took office. Did I say being mayor is fun? Actually, it is fun. I love this city, and all the people who are doing something to make improvements to it.

When COVID-19 hit, we had to adjust to a completely new way to run the city like City Hall closures, wearing masks, installing equipment to keep employees safe, tracking our spending for funding, setting people up to work remotely, and training staff on new safety protocols. We even had a person walking around the building all day and wiping everything down with disinfecting wipes. You all know the drill. It was a whole new world during the thick of the pandemic. I know, as mayor, I could have done without the pandemic, but I still have my sense of humor. In my three years as mayor, I feel like I missed out on sharing a whole mind full of ideas, but I’m glad we got through it.

I have a little under a year left to initiate the things I wanted to see happen in my first three years that I was unable to get around to doing. My last year in office will be spent differently because of important changes like the addition of a city administrator. One of those things that I always wanted was a city newsletter.

City Hall will use this newsletter to share important information about what is going on around the city. A lot of important change is happening in Aberdeen, and we want you to know about it, so you can be just as proud of our city as we are.

I hope you enjoy this newsletter and we look forward to many more to come.

City Council Highlights

The Aberdeen City Council is a 12-person council that is the legislative and policy-making body for the City of Aberdeen. Here are some of the highlights from recent meetings.

January

- The City Council held its annual election for council president and elected Councilmember Kati Kachman (Ward 3) to serve a second term. Committee chairs were also selected and will serve for a year in these capacities as well. Councilmember Debi Pieraccini (Ward 5) is serving as the chair of the Finance Committee; Councilmember Dee Anne Shaw (Ward 6) is continuing as chair of the Public Works Committee; and Councilmember Deborah Ross (Ward 4) is continuing as chair of the Public Safety Committee.
- The City Council requested that city staff provide monthly expense reports on what the city is spending to manage the impacts of the homeless crisis.
- The Port of Grays Harbor delivered a presentation of an expansion project happening at the port. This project will result in economic growth for the region. Following a presentation from the Grays Harbor Conservation District, the council voted to join.
- The City Council engaged in two strategic planning sessions where members were able to work together to create a Mission Statement, along with values and strategies aligned to the mission that will be presented at a future meeting.



Council President
Kati Kachman
Ward 4

February

- The City Council adopted changes to Aberdeen Municipal Code 2.20.010, Time of Meetings and 2.80.080, Committee Meeting Time and Place.
- The City Council hosted a workshop with the Board of Museum and History on Feb. 15. The Museum Board delivered a presentation to open up a discussion with the City of what the partnership between the City and Museum Board can look like in the future.
- The City Council adopted a proclamation recognizing February 20 as Kurt Cobain Day.
- The City Council also voted to place the Regional Fire Authority proposal before voters on the April 25 Special Election ballot, as did Hoquiam and Cosmopolis city councils.



Members of the City Council engage in a Strategic Planning Session at the Rotary Log Pavilion.

Meeting agendas and minutes can be found on the City of Aberdeen's website at www.aberdeenwa.gov/AgendaCenter.



- ➔ Aberdeen is a first class city with a mayor-council form of government.
- ➔ Aberdeen & Hoquiam have the only 12-member city councils in the state.
- ➔ Mayor Pete Schave served 18 years on City Council before becoming Mayor.
- ➔ Aberdeen is divided into six wards. Do you know which ward you live in?

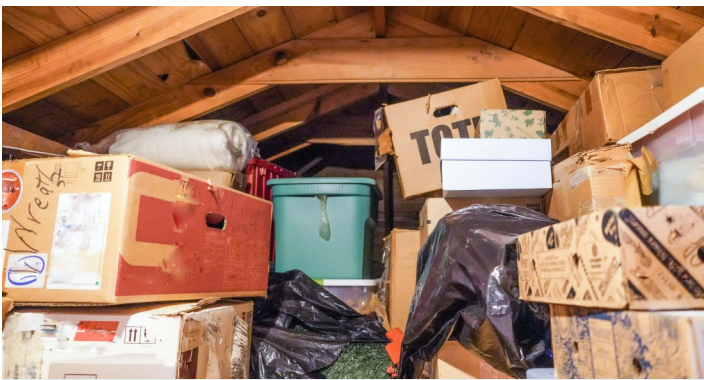
Low Staffing Levels At Grays Harbor 911 Center



The Grays Harbor 911 Center is at critically low staffing levels. We encourage Aberdeen residents to call the Aberdeen Police Department between the hours of 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. at (360) 533-3180 to report all **non-emergency calls** within the City of Aberdeen. This will allow the limited number of dispatchers at the Grays Harbor 911 Center to focus on emergency calls during peak call times. We also encourage residents to use the Aberdeen Police Department's online reporting service on the City of Aberdeen website (aberdeenwa.gov). On the front page of the website, click on **Departments**; next click on **Police Department**; then click on **Aberdeen Police Department Online Reporting**. This

service is for non-emergency reports only. Do not use the online reporting service if you need to speak to an officer immediately, report an in-progress crime, report a missing person, or report an incident with a suspect.

If you have any questions, please call the Aberdeen Police Department at 360-533-3180 or stop by the station on 210 Market Street.



Redeem Spring Clean-up Vouchers in April

Ready to clear out your garage or attic? The City of Aberdeen's Spring Clean-up Voucher Program can help! This annual program allows Aberdeen residents to take one car, pickup or small trailer of waste (up to one ton) to the LeMay's Grays Harbor Transfer Station **at no charge**. Some waste restrictions apply, so please read the voucher carefully. Vouchers will be mailed to residents that live in single-family and duplex homes that are within city limits. If you receive your mail by P.O. box, you can pick up your voucher at City Hall with proof of physical address. Please remember to take your voucher with you; the City will not reimburse you for any costs if you are charged for not having a voucher present. The vouchers will be purple this year and will be valid for the entire month of April. LeMay Grays Harbor Waste Transfer Station is located at 29 Gavett Lane, Montesano, WA 98563. Transfer station hours are posted on their website graysharbor.lemayinc.com.

Join The Bloom Team!

Every spring and summer, Aberdeen's Downtown corridor is decorated with beautiful flower blooms up and down its busiest streets. The Aberdeen Bloom Team is to thank for all beauty that's infused into our downtown. The Bloom Team is a group of volunteers that meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday from May through September. Volunteering is a great way to give back to your community and the Aberdeen Bloom Team can use your help. The Bloom Team is responsible for 160 hanging flower baskets and 130 ground pots and also helps pick up remove litter downtown. Whether you're a student looking to fulfill community service hours toward graduation, or a person looking to serve your community and make new friends, the Bloom Team can use your help!



If you're interested in joining the Bloom Team, please contact Craig Yakovich at cyakovich@aberdeenwa.gov or 360-537-3230.

New Restroom at Pioneer Park

Thanks to a grant from the *Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office* a new restroom building was placed at Pioneer Park through a partnership with Aberdeen Little League. This new ADA accessible building is located near the Little League Field. In addition to the new restroom, the grant paid for concrete walkways and new fencing. The restrooms are also thanks to the generous funding provided by the *Grays Harbor Community Foundation*; *Sierra Pacific Foundation*; *Timberland Bank*; *Aberdeen Rotary Club*; and *Windermere Foundation*.



What's Happening Around the City?

March		April	
1	Men & Women's Softball Signups Begin (Parks)	1	Spring Clean-up Voucher Program Begins
1	Women's Volleyball League Begins (Parks)	6	Easter Egg Hunt (Parks) Olympic Stadium
8	Regular City Council Meeting	12	Regular City Council Meeting
22	Regular City Council Meeting	18	Community Discussion on Homelessness (City Hall)
23	Business Community Discussion on Homelessness	25	April Special Election - RFA
29	Regular City Council Meeting	26	Regular City Council Meeting

Helpful Tips from Our Customer Service Team

- **Make sure your contact information is updated.** Did you recently get a new phone number or email address? Did you recently move? By providing your updated contact information ensure we can reach you in case there are any issues with your utility service.
- **We are here to help with public works emergencies.** For public works emergencies during regular business hours (8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday – Friday) call (360) 537-3274. For emergencies after hours, please call (360) 533-5817.
- **We have several ways you can pay your bills.** You can pay online at our website www.aberdeenwa.gov. You can use a debit/credit card, or you can sign up to have your monthly bill deducted automatically. Payments can be delivered to our drop box behind City Hall. You can mail your payment to 200 E. Market St., Aberdeen, WA 98520. You can also pay by phone at (360) 533-4100.
- **Our website has a lot of helpful information!** Visit www.aberdeenwa.gov for information on billing assistance, employment opportunities, building permits, city council meeting information and more.



April 22 is National Prescription Take-Back Day

The Aberdeen Police Department will be a collection site during this year's National Prescription Drug Take Back Day, which will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on April 22 in the lobby of the Police Department.

This event is a safe, convenient and responsible way to properly dispose of unwanted and expired pharmaceuticals. Some items that will can not be accepted for disposal are needles, thermometers, aerosol cans, ointments (lotions or liquids), hydrogen peroxide, or medication from businesses or clinics. If you have any questions, please contact the Aberdeen Police Department at (360) 533-3180 or Grays Harbor County Public Health at (360) 532-8631.

